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NEWS RELEASE:
Public asks BPA to study alternative transmission route

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
FRIDAY, May 6, 1998
PR 27 98

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PORTLAND, Ore. — Hundreds of comments on a proposed southwest Oregon transmission project have prompted the Bonneville Power Administration to extend its scoping period from May 8 to mid-June and hold two additional informational meetings early next month.

BPA is proposing to build a 500-kilovolt transmission line to the Oregon coast. The line would reinforce BPA's electrical service to the southern coast of Oregon and provide the transmission necessary for a possible new steel mill that Nucor Corporation may build in the Coos Bay/North Bend area.

Many of the comments received in the past month asked BPA to look at building the transmission line along existing rights-of-way. BPA will study building the line from PacifiCorps' Dixonville Substation near Roseburg to Coos Bay, following an existing right-of-way. BPA plans to seek additional public comments about this alternative by extending the scoping period. BPA will schedule more public meetings soon.

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